

Are you a known quantity?

On air activities for EmComm

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American Radio Relay League

Emergency Preparedness

Manager



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A Few Caveats

- Those that need to hear this are not here
- You will likely hear something that will make you uncomfortable or challenge your perceptions
- Keep an open mind
- This probably isn't NIMS compliant



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Where does training begin?

- First – What sets apart from other volunteers?
- Second – What makes the Amateur Radio Service so valuable?
- As Amateurs what is our most valuable resource?
- What would we be without our spectrum?
- It all begins with getting on the air!



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Where does training begin?

- Training begins with us getting on the air!
- On air experience increases our value
- How much time do we actually spend on the air and how much time talking about getting on the air?
- Take away nets, EmComm activations, and public service events...how radio active are you?



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Be a known quantity

- Known quantity - any factor, circumstance, etc., that is already accepted or familiar
- Reaching it through QSO's
 - Contests
 - Awards
 - Informal on air events
 - Field Day
 - Experimentation



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Contests

Learn to pass traffic

“OK, N3TCE this is KD5EFS, please send route driver to 3324 East Fippywhip Street and Elm for pick up of the following medicines, uh...

Tsenodraculamine, Phlangeaeoustoolifier, Triheximethafoliaziolate 3mg repeat 3 mg only OK, please repeat back OVER”

“NN1N please copy three seven zero alpha kilo india one uniform check eight eight Connecticut QSL?”



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Contests

Record Keeping

Contest log/Net log or resource log
 $QSO's \times Multipliers = Score/Session, QTC$
 Score summary and LCR/After action
 report
 Accuracy is key!



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Mission/Task w/ RM**
 Test

Originator Date/Time Requested	Description/Response	Assigned To Date/Time	Time Due/ Completed	Status	Attachment
EOC Director WebEOC Administrator	Desc: Flash Flood knocked out power in main ESI building - requesting generator Loc: 823 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901 Details: Generator - Type I or II Contact: Yvonne Potter		05/03/2010 14:48:00	Complete	
Resource Manager Request Information:	Request ID: [E] Request Status: Deployed Assigned To: State Deploy Date/Time: 05/03/2010 13:35:00	05/03/2010 13:32:42	5/3/2010 15:25:00		
EOC Director WebEOC Administrator	Desc: Flooding in basement - personnel evacuation required Loc: 823 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901 Details: Contact: Josh Newsome		05/03/2010 21:11:00	Assigned	
EOC Director WebEOC Administrator	Desc: Flooded 1st floor @ ESI - require forklift to help move sandbags Loc: 823 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901 Details: Forklift Contact: Pratik Rashingkar		05/03/2010 16:13:00	Accepted	
Resource Manager Request Information:	Request ID: [B] Request Status: Requested Assigned To: State Deploy Date/Time:	05/03/2010 14:57:35			
EOC Director WebEOC Administrator	Desc: Flash flooding reported at ESI - damage assessment team needed Loc: 823 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901 Details: Contact: Sharla Dobbins		05/03/2010 21:23:00	In Progress	
	Response:	05/03/2010 15:03:04			

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W3KM Contest 2000 ARRL November Sweepstakes Score 56,672

Bonus	Mode	Time	Call	SerPrec	CkSec	Points	Ser #
20m	CW	1458	VE2XYZ	132A	71QC	2	369A

Real Time TX Exchanges 369A W3KM Check 66 EPA Ser#

After contest

QSO UTC Date 2k novss.log
 05/21/03 2k2_agbn.log
 MM/DD/YY 2k2_port.log
 2k2_spdx.log
 2k2_ukfd.log
 2k2_wpx.log
 2k3spqr.log

14:58:07 20m

Edit/Change Log

Save above data to Log

Font Size 20m QSOs 115 Multi. 31 Totals QSOs 368 Multi. 77

Band	Mode	Date	Time	Call	Score	Points	Ser #
20m	CW	11/06/00	0144	K3WV	368A 66EPA	747U EPA	2 59
15m	CW	11/06/00	0013	N7TR	362A 66EPA	405B NV	2 76
15m	CW	11/06/00	0016	K7SS	363A 66EPA	184A WVA	2 59
15m	CW	11/06/00	0018	N0NR	364A 66EPA	1033A CO	2 72

Example of multiple entries in single field, to make logging simple.

Contests

- Contests are a chance to put your EOC on the air
- Have a friendly competition with another EOC or the SEOC
- Use it as a chance to recruit new hams
- Don't wait until Field Day to invite served agency representatives



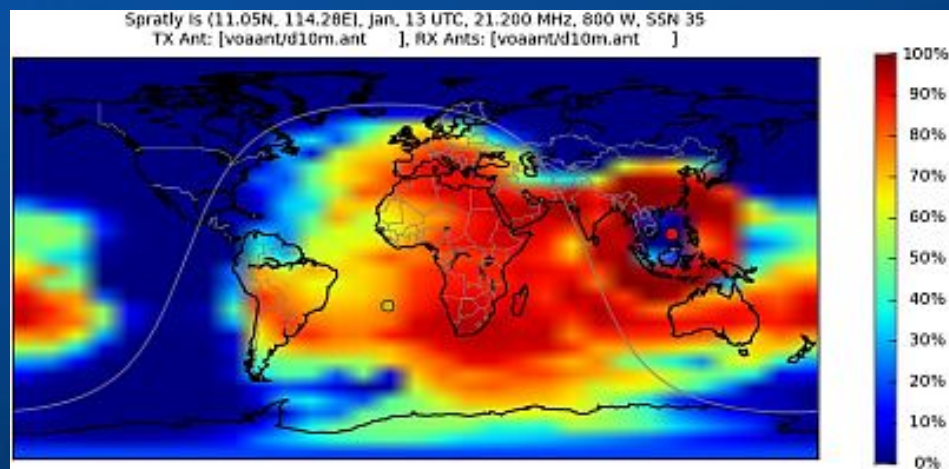
Andy, N1ORK in QSO with V31YK on 15 meters
Manchester, CT Emergency Operations Center
K9OEM



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Contests

- Endurance and physical capabilities
- Propagation and geography
- Band characteristics
- Identifying problems in your station
- Learn station building skills
- School Club and Rookie round ups make great learning events



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Contests

- Improvisation
- There are more contests than emergencies
- Diplomacy
- You don't have to compete, you can just participate
- Techs can do it too!



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Contests

Who knows your efforts may just be rewarded!



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Awards

Wallpaper = Known Quantity



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Awards

- Served agency training is critical in our working relationship with served agencies.
- This training does nothing to make you a better, more knowledgeable Amateur Radio operator.
- Amateur Radio awards require you to get on the air, get active, and give you something tangible for your efforts.
- In the process you will learn more about propagation, station building, antennas, your radio, and your operating skill.



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Awards

- ARRL – DXCC, WAS, VUCC
- IARU – WAC
- CQ – WAZ, WPX, USA-CA, CQ DX
- RSGB – IOTA
- Lighthouses, US islands, WAE, and many more!

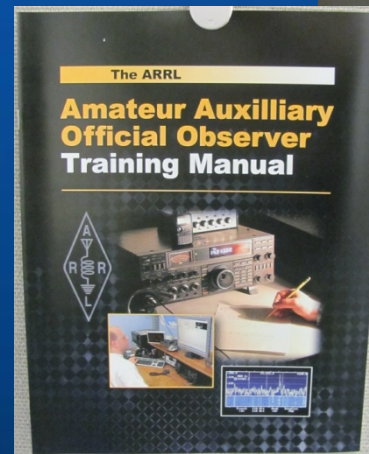


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Informal On Air Events

- Special Event Stations
- Rag Chewing
- Have your own QSO party
- Straight Key Night
- Get involved in Amateur Auxiliary



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Field Day

- On air and off air activities
- Chance to try new modes
- Test of equipment in the field, home, or EOC
- Try a solo Field Day and test your personal preparedness skills
- Challenge another local club or EmComm group



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Experimentation

Where is this found?

“Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.”

And this?

“Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.”

Experimentation

- Have you tried a new mode or re-visited an old mode?
- What will you do when what you expect to use doesn't work?
- How diverse is your communications tool box? You can't build a house if you only show up with a hammer.
- You learn to use your communications tools by getting on the air.



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Wrap Up

- Amateur Radio survives and thrives through use of our spectrum, if we don't use it we WILL lose it.
- An EmComm only mentality is as useful as a Dxing only, or Contest only, or _____ only mentality.
- The Amateur Radio licensee is a valuable asset because of their comprehensive knowledge of the Amateur Radio Service
- When you quote 97.1 quote all of it!
- Your license is the second most important piece of paper you get as an Amateur Radio operator
- Have fun, if you're not you're doing something wrong
- GET ON THE AIR!!!



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Questions???

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